2. Altadena Foothills and Arroyos: B, C, D			
Criteria Letter	Criteria Description	Criteria Met	Reason SEA meets Criteria
A	The habitat of core populations of endangered or threatened plant or animal species.	No	The Altadena SEA does not contain a core habitat for any known and designated endangered or threatened species
B	On a regional basis, biotic communities, vegetative associations, and habitat of plant or animal species that are either unique or are restricted in distribution.	Yes	The Altadena SEA is designating one of the principle ecotones of the Southern California coastal areas: the area where the sediment of the Coastal alluvial fans from the mountain streams and drainages is exiting the abrupt upthrust rock of the mountains. Here one finds the biotic communities of the mountains meeting the communities of the coastal plain areas combining with the organisms that are only found at the junction. The natural habitats of this kind of biological area are fast dwindling as urban communities expand to the limits of easily buildable space.
C	Within Los Angeles County, biotic communities, vegetative associations, and habitat of plant or animal species that are either unique or are restricted in distribution.	Yes	The Altadena SEA is designating one of the principle ecotone areas of Los Angeles County coastal exposure: the area where the sediment of the alluvial fans from the mountain streams and drainages is adding to the mile-deep sediments of the Los Angeles Basin as the watercourses exit the abrupt upthrust rock of the San Gabriel Mountains. It is an area where one can often encounter flora characteristic of the Peninsular Ranges to the south alongside plants that are characteristic of the coastal ranges and Sierra Nevada to the west and north in among typical flora of the Transverse Ranges. The SEA contains prime examples of coastal sage scrub and other kinds of chaparral including various kinds of mountain lilac (Ceanothus spp.); riparian oaks; woodlands of the canyon oak of the mountains; woodlands of the coast live oak which occurs both in the lower mountains and the valleys; good stands of the San Gabriel endemic oak (Quercus durata ssp. gabrielensis); diverse and beautiful flora characteristic of the continually changing beds of the

			mountain streams, both perennial and intermittent; and the wildlife that calls these various habitats "home."
D	Habitat that at some point in the life cycle of a species or group of species, serves as concentrated breeding, feeding, resting, migrating grounds and is limited in availability either regionally or in Los Angeles County.	Yes	Although the habitats that characterize the Altadena SEA are in decline elsewhere due to development, there is no habitat that is unique in distribution in Altadena. However, the area is a chief linkage for lower elevation movement along the coastal side of the San Gabriels and for movement between the San Gabriel Mountains and the Verdugo Mountains, which are the chief linkage between the San Gabriels and the Santa Monica Mountains through Griffith Park. Thus, this is a unique area due to its location and largely undeveloped status. It will be important in future development to recognize the linkage and preserve and enhance it in any manner possible. The SEA is also uniquely located because it contains the dividing (significant and natural) ridge connecting between the two principal rivers of the Los Angeles Basin, the Los Angeles River and the San Gabriel River.
E	Biotic resources that are of scientific interest because they are either an extreme in physical/geographical limitations, or represent unusual variation in a population or community.	No	The Altadena SEA is not known for containing extreme or unusual geographic variation of populations.
F	Areas that would provide for the preservation of relatively undisturbed examples of the original natural biotic communities in Los Angeles County.	No	The Altadena SEA has been impacted by development, particularly on its alluvial fans. The encroachment of mountain cabins into the mountain areas has been usually along the more gradual drainage courses, so that the steep mountain walls and steep stream courses are the habitats that are naturally intact.